

## **FIRMWARE MANAGEMENT TOOL**

### **Abstract of the Invention**

A firmware management method and system provides close control over a firmware  
5 development process via a firmware management tool and an archive. The archive can be  
used to store firmware files containing firmware source code in progress as well as finished  
source code along with its associated object code. The management tool includes an auditing  
function and a workflow management function so that the status of each firmware file and the  
work history of that file can be monitored and stored. By providing a centralized location for  
10 firmware source and object code, the tool makes it easier to track and modify firmware code  
at any stage as well as ensures that the code ultimately sent to a chip manufacturer is the final  
version of the code.

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